

Paragraphs [0015] and [0016], rewrite as follows:

In accordance with a second aspect of the invention there is provided apparatus for preparing a length segment of fiber, comprising a fiber guide for guiding a loose end segment of fiber in a direction transverse of its length towards a gripping location, and at least one gripping element at the gripping location for gripping the loose end segment, and wherein the fiber guide includes at least one wire member.

In accordance with a third aspect of the invention there is provided apparatus for cleaving a length segment of optical fiber, comprising a first clamp for gripping the length segment at a first location, a second clamp for gripping the length segment at a second location, spaced from the first location, an actuator for urging the second clamp away from the first clamp to tension the fiber segment between the first and second clamps, a cleaving element, a translation means for moving the cleaving element between a first location, in which it is spaced from the fiber segment, and a second location, in which it contacts a fiber segment held under tension between the first and second clamps, and an acoustic means for vibrating the cleaving element and inducing a fracture in the fiber segment when the cleaving element is in the second location.

Paragraph [0017], delete.

Paragraph [0018], rewrite as follows:

In accordance with a fourth aspect of the invention there is provided apparatus for preparing a length segment of optical fiber, comprising an intake means for receiving the length segment, a tool that acts on the length segment in preparing the length segment and, in so doing, creates fiber debris, a debris container, a duct leading from the vicinity of the tool to the debris container, and a vacuum pump connected to the container for inducing a flow of air through the duct for carrying fiber debris into the container.